

IN THE CLAIMS:

Listing of the claims:

1-8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently amended) A method to automatically handle undesired electronic mail (e-mail) in communication networks at the receiver, the method comprising:

automatically comparing the sender address accompanying an incoming e-mail to an electronically accessed list of authorized sender addresses assigned to the receiver; and then

storing the e-mail in a mailbox MB of the recipient, wherein the only e-mails transferred to the receiver's mailbox are those that had clearly been sent by authorized senders; and

in combination with:

performing an analysis to see if there is serial, incremental user identification occurring so that conclusions can be drawn concerning automatic attempts at breaking into the e-mail system.

10. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 9, wherein there are two logically or physically, or both, separate mailboxes, said mailbox MB and a junk mailbox JMB, wherein the e-mail server sends to the JMB mailbox all incoming e-mails that indeed have the subscriber's correct recipient address but are not contained in the sender list on the receiving side, thus making them available for further processing selectively by the internet service provider, the administrative authorities, and by the recipient.

11. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 9, wherein the
2 incoming e-mails are selectively put through an automatic handling and analysis process,
which can be selectively configured by the recipient and by the ISP, selectively in the e-
4 mail server, in a comparison device, and in at least one of the mailboxes, said process
initiated and configured either on a case-by-case basis or permanently.

12. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 10, wherein the
2 incoming e-mails are selectively put through an automatic handling and analysis process,
which can be selectively configured by the recipient and by the ISP, selectively in the e-
4 mail server, in a comparison device, and in at least one of the mailboxes, said process
initiated and configured either on a case-by-case basis or permanently.

13. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 9, wherein all
2 executable programs sent as attachments to e-mails are automatically separated in the
JMB.

14. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 10, wherein all
2 executable programs sent as attachments to e-mails are automatically separated in the
JMB.

15. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 11, wherein all
2 executable programs sent as attachments to e-mails are automatically separated in the
JMB.

16. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 12, wherein all
2 executable programs sent as attachments to e-mails are automatically separated in the
JMB.

17. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 9, wherein if an
2 undesired e-mail is received, discontinuation requests, or cease and desist demands, can
be generated automatically and delivered to the sender.

18. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 10, wherein if an
2 undesired e-mail is received, discontinuation requests, or cease and desist demands, can
be generated automatically and delivered to the sender.

19. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 11, wherein if an
2 undesired e-mail is received, discontinuation requests, or cease and desist demands, can
be generated automatically and delivered to the sender.

20. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 12, wherein if an
2 undesired e-mail is received, discontinuation requests, or cease and desist demands, can
be generated automatically and delivered to the sender.

21. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 9, wherein virus
2 checks of the e-mail can be carried out selectively at an established time of day or each
time a message arrives.

22. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 10, wherein virus
2 checks of the e-mail can be carried out selectively at an established time of day or each
time a message arrives.

23. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 11, wherein virus
2 checks of the e-mail can be carried out selectively at an established time of day or
each time a message arrives.

24. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 12, wherein virus
2 checks of the e-mail can be carried out selectively at an established time of day or
each time a message arrives.

25. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 10, wherein the
2 contents of the JMB can be cyclically deleted at specific time intervals.

26. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 11, wherein the
2 contents of the JMB can be cyclically deleted at specific time intervals.

27. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 12, wherein the
2 contents of the JMB can be cyclically deleted at specific time intervals.

28. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 13, wherein the
2 contents of the JMB can be cyclically deleted at specific time intervals.